

Alexandria Gazette 8 May 1873

Letter from Prince William from the Richmond Enquirer

Brentsville, the county seat, is three miles from Bristoe, a station on the Orange and Alexandria railroad, and is reached by staging from the latter point. It consists of a courthouse, jail (rather a rickety affair, as the killing of Clarke demonstrated), two hotels, one store, and several bar-rooms ---- what Virginia court-house, by-the-way, would be complete without those places wherein to refresh oneself after a ride over the dusty county roads? But at this time the roads are the reverse of dusty, and are very disagreeable to travel over on account of the slosh and mud.

The judge of the county, A. Nichol, Esq., is a young man, whose position as judge has added dignity to the Bench of Virginia and during his term has given entire satisfaction to the people over whom he presides.

The Brown Stone Quarries near Manassas are of very great importance to the county. The Mayfield Quarry is now being actively and energetically worked, and the stone is shipped by the Orange road to Washington, where it meets with ready sale. The manager of these quarries tell me the greatest trouble they have is getting cars in which to transport their stone. The Bloomfield Farm, owned by Francis L. Smith, of Alexandria, is spoken of having upon it one of the finest quarries in the county.